LIBERATOR.

G. BALEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

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THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, JULY 23, 1849.

For the National Era.

SKETCHES
OF
MODERN REFORMS AND REFORMERS,
IN
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

NEW SERIES.

Chartists and Complete Suffragists—Fergus O'Connor—William Lovett—John Collins—Henry Vincent—Thomas Cooper—Edward Miall—Reverend Thomas Thompson.

I redeem my promise to give brief notices of some of the more prominent Chartists and Free-Suffragists.

Fergus O'Connor has been styled "The Great Chartist Leader." In advocating the cause, he has suffered for his imprudences, if not for his principles. He is made up in about equal degree of the braggart and the coward, the demagogue and the democrat—a legitimate product of the rotten institutions and turbulent times in which he was born and has flourished. With many good qualities and many bad ones, he had not the moral bravery to lead a Reformation, nor the physical courage to head a Revolution. Aspiring to do both, and wanting capacity for either, he failed in each. Respect for an impulsive man who has proclaimed good principles in bad times, and sympathy for a weak man who has felt the thorn of persecution from worse hands than his own, induce me to forbear further remark on the foibles and follies of one who is shorn of his influence to do much future good or evil. Better for Chartism if he had lived and died a Tory; though, with all his sins, he will be kindly remembered when Tyrtæus is contemned.

William Lovett's manly virtues and vigorous sense would rescue even a trivial cause from contempt. They adorn a noble enterprise. Born in extremest poverty, he has struggled upward against the crushing weight of factious systems, to an influential position in society. While a young man, he was drafted into the militia—refused to be deprived into a machine to kill men at the word of command—was arraigned before a magistrate for the offence—terrified the justice by the boldness and ability of his defence—and was discharged from the service after seeing his little property confiscated and his family reduced almost to beggary. This petty tyranny fired him in the purpose of preparing himself to aid in remodelling institutions that taxed him to the marrow, without allowing him the right to the election of his rulers. He worked at his trade of cabinet-making by day, and cultivated his mind by night. Throwing himself into all metropolitan movements for the improvement of the laboring classes, he first attracted general notice by his connection with the London Working Men's Association, established in 1836. The many able addresses which this central body issued to the working mon of the kingdom, and to the laboring classes in Belgium, Poland, and Canada, were prepared by him. These led the way for the Chartist movement. In 1838, he assisted Messrs. O'Connell, Roebuck, and other members of Parliament, in preparing "The People's Charter;" his part of the work consisting in framing, and in revising, the noble and painfully celebrated document.

The main originator of the Chartist enterprise, he now gave to it his whole energies; and well would it have been had his sagacious mind and pacific disposition controlled its direction. The National Convention of Chartists was in session in Birmingham in 1839. The people of that town, as was their wont, were holding a meeting in "The Bull-ring," to discuss questions of reform. The police, part of whom had been specially sent from London, were ordered to break up the meeting. They rushed upon the assemblage, and, with their bludgeons, knocked down men, women, and children, and dispersed the meeting. Mr. Lovett, who was secretary to the Convention, drew up and presented to that body a manly protest against these outrages. It was printed and circulated through the town. For writing that paper, he and John Collins (who had carried the manuscript to the printer) were arrested for sedition, thrust into a dungeon, indicted, tried, convicted, and sentenced to a year's imprisonment in Warwick jail. On the trial, Lovett defended himself in a manly, and, at times, eloquent address to the jury commanded general admiration. While in prison, Lovett and Collins published a pamphlet of 130 pages, entitled "Chartism: A Plan for the Education and Improvement of the People." It is able and eloquent, filled with the noblest sentiments, and contains suggestions for the instruction and elevation of the masses, which, if adopted in the best sense, by the government, place England a century in advance of her present position. Near the close of their confinement, they wrote another paper, which I transcribe entire. The Melbourne Administration, "which meant but little, nor meant that little well," became ashamed of its treatment of Lovett and Collins, and offered to release them on their entering into bonds to keep the peace. Here is their reply. Read it, and ask how contemptible a nobleman looks in the hands of a cabinet-maker and a tool-maker:

"Warwick Jail, *May 6*, 1840.

"*To the Right Honorable the Marquis of Normanby, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department:*

"My Lord: The visiting magistrate of the county jail of Warwick having read to us a communication, dated Whitehall, May 5, and signed S. M. Phillips, in which it is stated that your Lordship will recommend us to Her Majesty for a remission of the remaining part of our sentence, provided we are willing to enter into our recognizances in £50 each for our good behaviour for one year, we beg respectfully to submit the following as our answer. To enter into any bond for our future good conduct would be an admission of past guilt; and however a prejudicial jury may have determined that the resolutions we caused to be published, condemnatory of the attack of the police, were a violation of the law of libel, we cannot bring ourselves to believe that any criminality attaches to our past conduct. We have, however, suffered the penalty of nearly ten months' imprisonment for having, in common with a large portion of the public press, and a large majority of our countrymen, expressed that condemnatory opinion. We have been about the first political victims who have been classed and punished as misdemeanants and felons, because we happen to be of the working class. Our healths have been injured and our constitutions seriously undermined by the treatment we have already experienced; but we are disposed to suffer whatever future punishment may be inflicted upon us, rather than enter into any such terms as those proposed by your Lordship.

"We remain your Lordship's most obedient servants, William Lovett.
John Collins."

Having been confined to a narrow, filthy cell, and fed on the meanest fare, Mr. Lovett's health was so seriously impaired that he did not recover his wonted vigor till nearly two years after his release from prison.

Mr. Lovett was a member of the Birmingham Complete Suffrage Conference in 1842, and his well balanced mind and lucid speeches gave him a leading position in that body. For a few years past, he has been engaged in publishing works adapted to the wants of the laboring classes, and his pen has been active in their cause. He was the publisher of "Lovett's Journal," and contributed some of the best papers which appear on its pages. *In person*, he is tall and gentlemenly, has an intellectual countenance, and, take him all in all, is a rare specimen of a good man who has risen headed under the crust of British aristocracy.

John Collins, like William Lovett, came up from the ground tier of British society, and has brought along with him the sympathies and the "order" than Mr. L. He has rode out a good deal of rough weather in defence of Chartist principles. On his release from Warwick jail, he was received with the warmest enthusiasm by congregated thousands of his Birmingham neighbors. He afterwards made a tour of Scotland, addressing audiences in the open air, equal numbers to one of his speeches. My mind having been filled with prejudices against him, I was prepared to see a monster. But, there stood before me a stout, hale man, apparently in the midst of the dengue and the decorat—a legitimate product of the rotten institutions and turbulent times in which he was born and has flourished. With many good qualities and many bad ones, he had not the moral bravery to lead a Reformation, nor the physical courage to head a Revolution. Aspiring to do both, and wanting capacity for either, he failed in each. Respect for an impulsive man who has proclaimed good principles in bad times, and sympathy for a weak man who has felt the thorn of persecution from worse hands than his own, induce me to forbear further remark on the foibles and follies of one who is shorn of his influence to do much future good or evil. Better for Chartism if he had lived and died a Tory; though, with all his sins, he will be kindly remembered when Tyrtæus is contemned.

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them build it; the self-educated shoemaker has also reared his, and, despite its imperfections, he has a calm confidence that, though the product of poverty, and suffering, and misery, it will outlast the posthumous stone block that may be erected to perpetuate the memory of the titled lawyer."

Mr. Cooper subsequently published other works, satisfied in editing Douglas Jerrold's Magazine, contributed to Howitt's Journal, and delivered courses of lectures before various literary and scientific institutions in London; but, under all circumstances, giving his heart and his hand to all efforts to elevate the class of society in which he is proud to have had his origin.

The bare names of those who have borne a prominent part in the Chartist movement would fill pages. I must have known, and have chance to notice two men only who may be classed as Complete Suffragists proper, they never having acted with the Chartists.

Mr. Edward Miall has been for several years the editor of *The Nonconformist*. He formerly officiated as a dissenting minister. Competent judges have pronounced this newspaper one of the ablest of the English journals, its conductor one of the ablest of English editors. Undoubtedly it stands in the front rank of *religious* newspapers. It has filled a prominent place in the missions of a religious journal in the current crisis of English affairs, and fulfils it with courage, integrity, and ability. For years, it stood single-handed in the views of Radical Reformers of all denominations. It is the organ of no party, but utters the sentiments of the friends of progress. While it gives much attention to worldly affairs, it discusses all political matters that occupy the public mind, probing subjects to the core, laying bare fallacies, and exposing wrong-doers in Church and State, without fear or favor, ranting or cant. The leading characteristic of its editorials is their searching and philosophical style of argument; while its articles, in point of style, as to form of composition, are lustrous and compact, equalling in beauty and grandeur the essays of the first English periodicalists. No scholarship has in the most pungent sarcasm and lively wit, all the more biting and inspiring for being exceptions to its general rule. Every line breathes a deep earnestness for truth, and a true sympathy with humanity. The writings of Mr. Miall are models of English composition.

At the last general election, Mr. Miall contested Leeds with the Radical candidate; and the speeches during the canvass were only surpassed in strength and acuteness by the emanations of the Chartist Vincent. So accomplished was the orator—the mere frame and gilding—he falls below the expectations of those familiar with his writings. An attenuated frame, a thin voice, a lisp, and a nervousness approaching to gentleness, seem too slight a frame-work to contain the exertion of so mighty a mental machine as his. Glorious news, O'Connell's trial, has thrown the sage of her Parliament are thickly sprinkled with such men as Miall, Cobden, Sturge, Thompson, and Vincent.

Having stopped a moment to look at the plaid garb of a Nonconformist minister, we will glance at a hardly less radical reformer, arrayed in the canonicals of the Church of England "as by law established." Rev. Thomas Spencer, a thin gentleman has travelled and spoken extensively in our country, it will not surprise Americans to find, almost a democrat. Possessing superior talents, a rich flow of language, and a graceful and graceful person, Mr. Spencer has been eminently successful in instructing and delighting large audiences. His discourses are characterized by their judgments and tastes themes that would have been repulsive in the hands of men of less intellectual development. He took a prominent part in the Birmingham Conference of 1842, and organized the National Complete Suffrage Union, and was elected a member of the General Council of that association. He has ranged the fields with the poor of England, feels deeply for their wrongs, and boldly advocates their rights. How beautiful and effective is the light reflected upon the wide-withering chaos of surrounding darkness, by such clergymen as Thomas Spencer and Baptist Noel. "They, as well as many kindred spirits of the Establishment, are the pure moral leaven, which, in many cases, is either very much-maligned, or is very hard to be learned.

H. B. S.

For the National Era.

FICTION—ITS ABUSES.

The existence of a faculty is the divine warrant for its exercise. Its capabilities are the natural charter of its activities. Its endowments indicate the purpose of their bestowal—just as every wheel and spring in a watch indicate the use there to play its part. In the structure of the mind, which is clearly an aggregate of dissimilar powers, there is none redundant—not one; and neither original sin nor accidental abuse has changed their number or essential nature. If every mind answered truly to the idea of the Creator, it would be also true that every part and power of its complex constitution would be found in force and right in direction; but, in fact it is not so. Though Nature, under the law that every creature shall bring forth after its own kind, preserves the number and character of the elementary faculties, so that the human mind has ever been, in these respects, the same, it has happened that the balance is broken and their harmony is lost. Constituted as they are most deranged, and the education of circumstances disturbs and perverts them still more; so that abuse results, which, towards God, is sin—towards man, crime and injury—in the wrong-doer, corruption, bondage, and moral disease. Still they are all naturally in freedom—such freedom as choice confers, and their best estate, their conformity to duty, or the highest degree of virtue which they can reach, is only that of a free servitude. Thus: the natural instincts and selfish affections—respect only our individual wants, and the least worthy of them; we must live by them and may indulge them, but in strict subordination to the faculties which put us in relation with all that is around and above us—a scale that rises in beautiful gradation from mere sanctity of manners up to universal benevolence toward men, and thence again through the still grander and holier religious affections, till the perfection of our nature is reached in the capacity of union with the Supreme. None of these powers, from the lowest up to the highest, were given to be either suppressed or extinguished. They were all bestowed in all their varied excellency by creative Wisdom to accomplish our happiness and His high purposes, under the discriminating moral reasoning adapted to whose natural means of knowledge He has, in all ages and olimes, and perhaps in every individual, superadded the light of revelation.

The application of these truths to works of imagination, as to every other range of mind and relation of life, is easy, and the conclusion is clear enough, that works produced by and addressed to the imagination are not to be condemned merely because they are fictitious in narrative, but should be approved or condemned by their intrinsic qualities and legitimate tendency and effects.

Novels that are injudicious in their plan, absurd and extravagant in execution, useless or dangerous in their issue, fall fairly under the censure of correct taste and sound morality. The least exceptionable of these are no better or other than so many sources of mental dissipation and moral palsy.

Some of them do terrible mischief to their silly devourers, by rendering them callous to the plain, unvarnished misery which everywhere solicits their regards in actual life—as extravagant cookery blunts the palate to wholesome food—rendering their sensibilities irritable, morbid, feeble, approaching to exhanstion, by constant abuse upon the ridiculous distresses of ranting fools and hysterical puppies of both genders, paraded in literary proportions as cheap and mean as they are abundant. Moreover, the victims of this trashy extravagance are kept regularly drunk upon the small beer of sentimentalism, which they mistake for the very wine of life and have their fancies juggled into imbecility by highly-wrought daubings of preposterous reflection and impossible fortunes, and are rendered absurdly unfit for the common duties and plain pleasures of life, which, in every form, and every flire has a tongue that asks only to be heard.

The sober, grave, hard-working faculties perform the drudgery which ministers to our first necessities without question or rebuke; the instant dependence of the higher class of our services, puts their right of action beyond dispute; but every other faculty of our nature asks an indulgence which proportions it to the higher departments of our nature, richer in their wisdom and more loyal to the duty which authorship assumes under the sanction of the charge of the paper treatises on society and moral science which claim the confidence and demand the assent of the more serious world.

To do the seriousness of this great responsibility, and the perception of the influence of this species of literature, I ascribe Bulwer's conversion from the follies of his early novels to the luminous tone of novels, to the very high style of moral and humanitary sentiments which give character to his later productions.

But I intended only to consider my subject on the points which I have in some sort presented. I did not propose a critical article upon fictitious literature in general, nor to be involved in the history or prophesy of my subject, in its schools or its rules, but with certain abstract ideas, primary conditions, and practical reflections, which I have as briefly expressed as I could, intending anything beyond suggestions, by the way, I have given my article no special array, and have not even carefully prepared it for the press. Not

THE TERMS.

We again call the attention of our readers to the following extract from the "Terms" of the *Era:*

"Every subscriber renewing his subscription, and sending three new subscribers, shall have the three copies for five dollars."

A subscriber sends us five dollars for *three* new subscribers, and thinks he carries out the spirit of the proposition. Undoubtedly. A postmaster, or a subscriber, also sends three new subscribers on the same terms, presuming that we will not object. Certainly not. The only difference between these cases, and those in which subscribers pay their money to agents, is that in the former the subscribers secure to themselves the benefit of the commission. This does not interfere with our regular agents, but rather helps them, by multiplying our readers, and thus extending the field for their operations.

We hope each subscriber, as his subscription runs out, will bear in mind that, by a little exertion, he may secure two new subscribers, and supply himself and them for five dollars.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, JULY 26, 1849.

"THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH."

The article under this title, published lately in the *Erie, by a Carolinian,* in reply to Ellwood Fisher's Address, has been issued in pamphlet form by Messrs. Buell & Blanchard, and may be had at $2 a hundred. We know of no better document just now for circulation, and hope that orders may be sent in for them forthwith.

MR. CALHOUN'S LETTER crowds us. We have adopted the abridgement of it made by the *Alexandria Gazette,* retaining the whole of his argument on the Territorial Question.

ORDINANCE CELEBRATION.—For proceedings see 4th page.

DR. WILLIAM ELDER.

Dr. William Elder of Philadelphia has the reputation of being one of the most eloquent and effective speakers in the United States. What he is as a writer, our readers, who have paid any attention to his article on Fiction, in a former number and on the first page of the number of the *Era,* need not be told. Having never heard him speak, we have him in wait for reports of his famous speeches, but reporters have failed to dare execrye him, simply remarking that the Doctor spoke in his usual "eloquent," or "brilliant," or "unrivalled" manner, or something of the sort. For the first time, we caught him the other day in the *Philadelphia Sun.* He had made a speech in Philadelphia before a meeting called to sympathize with the nations of Europe, struggling for their freedom, and somebody succeeded in taking him down in black and white. We give the report on our first page, and commend it to the attics of the reader, whose admiration will be excited by its rare combination of philosophy and oratory. And, with such a man among them, Philadelphians send second-rate politicians and fourth-rate speakers to Congress, to represent them! What honor would the election of such a man as Dr. Elder by the liberal and enlightened friends of progress in all parties, reflect upon their great city!

DR. HAWTHORNE AND CHOLERA.

The letters of Dr. Hawthorne on the treatment of cholera have attracted much attention. He uses the following combinations:

1. Powdered Opium, twelve grains.
Camphor, half a drachm.
Capsicum, nine grains.
Spirits of Wine and Conserve of Roses, of each a sufficient quantity—mix.

To be made into a mass and divided into twelve pills.

Each of these pills, it will be observed, contains one grain of Powdered Opium.

2. Chloric Ether.
Aromatic Spirit of Ammonia.
Camphorated Spirits.
Tincture of Opium.
Of each one drachm.
Cinnamon Water, two ounces—mix.

As I shall have occasion frequently to refer to these pills and this mixture, I shall term them, for convenience and accuracy's sake, the Anti-Spasmodic Pills and Anti-Spasmodic Mixture.

His mode of using these combinations is as follows, selecting the *worst* stages of the disease. Of course, in the preliminary stages, the practice would not be so energetic:

Place the patient immediately in the horizontal posture, in bed; and give him, on the instant, as this is an extreme case, ten of the anti-spasmodic pills, and two ounces of the above anti-spasmodic mixture, and wash the whole down with a glass of undiluted brandy or whiskey, flavored strongly with cloves, essence of ginger, or some such warm aromatic spice. In the mean time, have him covered with an additional blanket, and let the usual means of communicating heat, such as jars or bottles of hot water, bags of hot salt or sand, hot bricks, or whatever can be most readily procured, be applied without delay to the feet and different parts of the body, so as to restore the temperature, and promote perspiration as quickly as possible. As soon as the perspiration has begun to flow freely, superadded to the medicine and cordial already administered, a glass of brandy punch should be given—the punch to be made strong, and to be swallowed hot as possible. After this, no drink should be given till the perspiration has flowed freely for a few minutes. The stomach will then retain it, and the patient should be indulged freely with copious draughts of rennet whey, warm toast water flavored with some agreeable spice, mint or balm tea, or any such mild beverage. The necessity of attending to this is most important. When the discharges from the bowels cease, and when the pulse becomes quick and pounding, and the body is covered with a copious warm perspiration, which will not fail to be the case under such treatment, the danger is over. If the perspiration, if the patient can bear it, should be kept up for twelve hours, and may with advantage be continued, moderately, even longer. In this, however, he must be governed according to the strength of the patient and the state of the pulse.

After the first four or six hours, more heat need not be applied than is perfectly agreeable to the feeling of the patient. It is remarkable how suddenly the premordial oppression, &c., are relieved on the breaking out of a free perspiration; and what is of greater importance still, the vomiting, where it exists, immediately ceases. I know of no other means by which vomiting in such cases can be speedily and effectually checked. In the application of external heat, a rational use should be made of the means. I cannot see the necessity for increasing the temperature beyond what is grateful to the feelings of the patient, and beyond what is sufficient to produce and keep up a profuse perspiration. I would remark, that the heat can be more perfectly equally communicated by solid substances, such as I have mentioned above, than by the hottest air or vapor apparatus. This apparatus, as a means of communicating heat to a patient affected with cholera, is an instrument which I consider to be worse than useless.

Now, let it be observed that I have selected an extreme case, and have prescribed a dose of medicine sufficient to meet such a case. As I have already stated, not one case need be fatal if the practice be sufficiently prompt and bold. I have supposed a case of the most malignant character, where there has been profuse watery purging, and where another discharge from the bowels would endanger the patient's life; and, under these circumstances, I have prescribed ten of the pills containing ten grains of powdered opium, as a less dose would not meet the exigencies of the case. To administer this dose, under the circumstances I have stated, is perfectly safe; to admit an inefficient dose is not certain death. In short, the circumstances supposed, tried smaller doses, but found them insufficient to arrest the progress of the symptoms, and was obliged in a few minutes, to increase them. After such experience, I always prescribed ten of the pills for a close, under the alarming and dangerous circumstances I have supposed, and always with perfectly failing success; and I have never seen the slightest narcotic effect produced by this large dose of medicine, on any of the patients to whom it was administered under such circumstances.

Having treated numerous cases of this disease, and experienced it too, during its former visitation, we are prepared to endorse this vigorous treatment, as the very best that we have seen recommended.

OLIVER JOHNSON, formerly connected with the *New York Tribune,* has become the editor of the *Anti-Slavery Bugle,* and, bating his notions about the Constitution and the Union, he is making an excellent paper. He is good-tempered, liberal, and an energetic editor.

ANNEXATION OF THE BRITISH PROVINCES IN NORTH AMERICA.

As the subject of the annexation of the British Provinces in North America, to this country, is now attracting much attention, the following statistics, compiled from various sources, will be useful for reference:

	Area in sq. miles.	Population.	
Upper Canada in 1841 -	147,832	506,055	
Lower Canada in 1841 -	201,989	693,649	
Total -	349,821	1,199,704	
[The total population at this time must be over 1,500,000.]			
Nova Scotia -	15,617	220,000	
Cape Breton -	3,129	39,000	
New Brunswick -	27,700	220,000	
	46,446	479,000	

We throw out of the account the islands, which Great Britain might desire to retain; and then there is an aggregate territory of about four hundred thousand miles, with a population, Anglo-Saxon in its main element, of between two and three millions, to be annexed. At least seven large States could be constructed out of the aggregate.

	Commerce.		
	Tonnage.	Imports.	Exports.
	1845.	1844.	1844.
Upper Canada }	61,869	$11,920,989	$8,790,995
Lower Canada }			
New Brunswick -	92,865	3,362,445	2,727,830
Nova Scotia -	108,799	4,499,900	1,980,705
Cape Breton -	20,591	47,235	131,160
	284,124	19,820,560	13,630,690

The commerce of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, for many years past, has been almost stationary, as will be seen from the following tables:

	Nova Scotia.		
	Tonnage.	Imports.	Exports.
1833 -	3,066	$1,997,270	$1,267,670
1835 -	3,061	2,400,720	1,284,457
1840 -	3,400,720	3,712,960	
1842 -	4,994,075	3,210,395	
1844 -	4,489,900	1,980,705	
	New Brunswick.		
	Imports.	Exports.	
1832 -	$2,659,375	$2,357,635	
1835 -	3,107,555	3,380,045	
1840 -	3,057,930	3,451,950	
1840 -	4,228,400	3,185,745	
1842 -	3,457,670	2,839,915	
1844 -	3,362,445	2,727,830	

In the Canadas, in 1842, 14 out of every 100 children were receiving instruction, and, in 1848, 27 out of every 100. In Virginia, we estimate that not more than 15 or 18 out of every 100 are receiving instruction—

"In twenty years, the amount of assessed property has doubled—in 1824, it was $64,284,457; in 1848, £8,567,001. Of *horses,* there is *one* to every *six* inhabitants, and of *milch cows, one* to every *three* inhabitants. Of wheat, the produce in 1842 was 3,222,990 bushels; in 1848, 7,558,773 bushels. In population, the growth, as compared with the growth in the United States, is alike unexpected and surprising. The increase of the population of the United States from 1840 to 1847, is estimated at 17 per cent.; of Canada, 100. The proportionate quantity of wheat to each inhabitant was

	1840.	1847.
	Bushels	Bushels
In the United States -	4⅞	5¼
In Canada -	6¾	10⅓

"Indian corn, however, *the* great staple of the United States, is little raised in Canada."

Our readers need not be told that we are in favor of annexation when it can be accomplished without war, without dishonor, and with the consent of all the parties concerned. Our system of confederated States, under a general head—each being left free to provide for its own domestic interests, while external relations and interests are superintended by the General Government—is eminently adapted to secure the highest form of civilization, and its essential conditions, over the greatest extent of territory. Europe has its peculiar political system, the distinguishing feature of which is, Disunity. It is cut up into numerous independent and *alien* States; many of them petty principalities with discordant interests and irritating rivalries; the lesser States in constant danger of being crushed under foot by the greater; and these ever intent upon selfish aggrandizement. Hence the exhausting military establishment, the wasting tax on production, the ruinous restraints on commerce, the bloody wars, the many barren revolutions, the almost invincible obstacles in the way of Popular Progress.

Our circumstances are different. The North American Continent has fallen under the dominion chiefly of one race, speaking one language, accustomed to free institutions, addicted to similar modes of thought, of diversified, but as yet, harmonious interests. Why should our civilization be retarded, crippled, by the spirit of Disunity? Why should the Federal system—and it is one, inculcated by Christianity, born in the heart of man—should be UNITY. This realized, our entire energies—we speak now of the Continent—could be concentrated in the peaceful development of a Civilization which it has not yet entered into the heart of man to conceive. With the Canadas on our borders, as dependencies on a foreign Power, we must erect hostile custom-houses, and military defences, thus wasting means that might be more wisely and beneficially employed in the cultivation of our interior life. With the Canadas, as independent States, a portion of their territory reaching down almost to the heart of our Union, and coterminous for thousands of miles, jealousies, rivalries, collisions, interruptions to our progress no less than with ours, would be sure to spring up.

Give us UNITY. Let us be One and Indivisible—like the planets, each distinct, shining with its own light, moving in its own orbit, but all circling harmoniously around the great Central Sun.

What an example to the world! A Continent at Peace! Variety without Discord, Unity without Monotony—Fraternal Liberty, State Sovereignty, Federal Supremacy, harmonized—a civilization without a camp, without an army, but with a might more than a match for the world in arms!

It is idle to suppose that such a Confederacy would be dangerous to the rights of mankind. Peace would be its fundamental condition. Having nothing to fear from aggression, the love of Peace would be its ruling passion. Enjoying the inculculable benefits of a Union so extended in its highest aspirations would be, for such a union of all nations se would provide for the adjustment of international disputes without the arbitrament of war.

The American People will undertake no hasty or ill-advised movements to hasten a consummation which the majority of them regard as desirable. It is for their brethren in the Provinces and Great Britain to say when and how the connection between them shall terminate; and they are anxious that their Northern neighbors should convince themselves fully of the benefits of annexation, before making any overtures. We desire no members of our Union, who do not become such voluntarily, and remain with us cheerfully. It is idle to suppose that we are ambitious to gain great movements, involving the interests of nations, by the same petty machinery which they would use to achieve a party triumph, that our Government might do much to promote annexation by denying to Great Britain the *reciprocity* which she so anxiously seeks.

A correspondent of the *Boston Courier* favors the public with the following information and speculation:

"Mr. Merritt, of Canada, who holds, we believe, a position under the Government of that Province, which corresponds to that of Premier at home, has lately been here, and, in connect with the British minister, has been endeavoring to obtain the consent of the Administration to a proposition for free trade between the British North American Colonies and the United States.

"The proposition has been urged with zeal by Mr. Merritt on behalf of Canada, and its claims to a favorable consideration have been earnestly presented to our Government by Mr. Crampton. The British authorities are evidently impressed with the necessity of doing something to alleviate the commercial condition of British North America, as well as to divert the public mind of Canada, now so agitated, from its present undivided attachment to the British connection. Hence the present mission of Mr. Merritt, and the warm cooperation of the British minister in furtherance of his aims."

The writer says that our Government returned a negative answer to the proposition, and he adds—

"These Provinces begin to see clearly, and feel sensibly, that under the system of free trade proposed by England for the future policy, they are to labor under very great disadvantages while they continue to remain appendages to the British Crown, unless they can obtain the right of free trade with the United States. To get it, therefore, is their first desire; and the British Government, we see, is wise enough to afford all the assistance in its power to accomplish something that will. It knows full well that if that effort shall fail, a serious consequence will follow in the shape of a clamor and a demand for 'annexation.' The end of that clamor is not doubted. It is idle of no doubt. It must result in the admission of the Colonies as States into our Federal Union.

"The subject thus assumes a very important and interesting aspect in a national and political point of view. It is something vastly higher and of more consequence than a mere question of the admission of certain Canadian politicians to free of duty. It is, whether we will pursue a policy which will encourage *and finally constrain the Colonies to separate from the mother country;* or whether we shall blindly adopt measures which will leave them without a reason for desiring or an excuse for attempting that separation. *Let the Colonies once have free trade with the United States.* Their geographical position makes the necessity inexorable, after the destruction of the old British colonial system. If they cannot obtain it without annexation, they will be annexed. There is no question of this. It is 'manifest destiny.'"

We are inclined to think this a short-sighted policy. It must tend to foster unfriendly feelings in the Canadas towards this country, and will certainly paralyze the Great Britain in favor of a measure which would aggrandize a Government thus placed in a position antagonistic to her own. It is a game at which two can play. If the haughty Government of England perceive that by denying free trade to the Canadas we are trying to force their annexation, she will naturally refuse to take another step on the ground of their complaints, making decided discriminations in favor of their commerce, perhaps against our own—and then, what should we have gained? Our true policy is, to encourage the freest possible intercourse with our Northern neighbors. This will impress them more and more with the great benefits to be derived from annexation. Already our exports to the Provinces amount to half of those from Great Britain; suppose they were equal to the latter, or twice as great, does not every one see how strong an impulse would be given to the sentiment of annexation? Such a policy, too, would conciliate the British Government. Its pride would not be wounded, its jealousy aroused, the spirit of retaliation provoked. The greatest obstacle to annexation will be found in her pride and supposed interest; but, if she can be convinced that the independence of the Colonies and their annexation to this country would vastly promote her interests, by enlarging her markets, she would at last yield gracefully to "manifest destiny."

The average annual value of the imports from Great Britain and Ireland, into the British Provinces in America, excluding Honduras, for the seven years ending 1846, was about thirteen millions of dollars. The average annual value of British imports into this country since 1840, has been about forty-five millions of dollars. Now, let the English Government understand that annexation would give such an impulse to all the interests of the Canadas, that many of those emigrants from Britain who now, instead of settling there, pass on to the States, would thus prefer the new lands in those Provinces; that a stream of emigration from New England and New York would immediately set towards the annexed territory, so much more accessible than the Far West; that in this way new markets would be opened for her products; and that our policy, so far from tending to restriction, would continually tend to reciprocity; and we does not see that the strongest motives against a change in the condition of her American Colonies would be removed?

Other important views of this great question we shall present from time to time.

IOWA.

The Democratic State Convention of Iowa, held at Iowa City, on the 26th inst., was agitated considerably by the Slavery question. After a hard struggle, it rejected all propositions to recognise the Wilmot Proviso, and concluded to stand by the Nicholson Letter—the only Democratic State Convention in the United States that has done so. It passed the following two resolutions:

Resolved, That we deprecate any separate and sectional organization in any portion of the country, having for their object the advocacy of an abstract question involving a moral and fact, pride and not principle, as destructive to the peace and happiness of the people, and dangerous to the stability of the Union.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the Territories of New Mexico and California came to us free, and are free now, by law, it is our desire that they should remain forever free; but that we are opposed to a repeal the laws, making the country free, and to erect others in their stead for the Provision. If slavery, we deem it inexpedient and improper to add to the further discussion of the Slavery question, by demanding, in the name of the Wilmot Proviso, what is already amply secured by the laws of the land.

It is difficult to avoid imputing insincerity to men who profess opposition to the extension of Slavery, and yet pass such resolutions as these. The concoctors of the resolutions must have known that the doctrine set forth in the last one is denied by the great majority of Southern politicians, and of course is a mere abstraction, affording no practical safeguard against the introduction of Slavery. Hear John C. Calhoun:

"There is another error akin to this—that the Mexican law abol-shing slavery is still in force in New Mexico and California, when not a particle of its authority or sovereignty remains in either. Their conquest by us, and the treaty that followed, extinguished the whole, and with it annulled all the laws applicable to them, except those existing to such rights of property and relations between individuals as are sanctioned by the law of nations, and even these are continued only by sufferance and on the implied authority of the conquering country, and the authority of the conquered, and only from the necessity of the case. Her law abolishing slavery is not embraced in the exception; and, if it were, it would be taken out of it, as the assent of Congress could not be implied to continue a law which it had no right to establish."

This is the doctrine of Slavery Propagandists, and they will act upon it; but these Cass Democrats of Iowa propose to secure the free Territories of New Mexico and California against their incursions, by a naked affirmation of the contrary doctrine! They are either shamefully insincere, or extremely simple.

The Whig State Convention that met on the 30th ult., at the same place, passed the following resolution, showing that the Whigs of that State are much in advance of their Cass brethren.

Resolved, That we are opposed to the extension of Slavery into territory now free, and that we believe it to be the duty of the General Government to relieve itself of the responsibility of that institution wherever it has the constitutional authority to do so, and that the legislation necessary to effect these objects should be adopted

For the National Era.

TO STELLA.

BY MISS PHOEBE CAREY.

Stella, once thy dewy eye
Drooped not down so mournfully;
Stella, once the lustrous hair
Vanished calmly, ever'y;
Now, with sadness on thy smile,
Thou art changing all the while.

By the sad flow of thy hair,
Veiling ill a brow of care—
By thy crimson-changing cheek,
By the lips that tremble to speak,
Thou remembrest but too well,
Tones that haunt thee with a spell.

Stella, thou hast once been heard,
Dearer than a brother's word;
Stella, thou hast been a king,
Sweeter than a sister's is;
And thy heart hath wishes, too,
Such as children never know.

Stella, well for thee it is
Thou to trouble'th thy bliss;
Well it is for her to pray,
Lest there come an evil day—
One in which a human love
Cannot shield thee from the storm.

I have watched thee, Stella, fair,
With a child's fond pride of care;
Fearing, knowing, this must be,
Since thy dawn was bright—
Now my watch for thee is done,
God protect thee, gentle one!

OLD ISSUES OBSOLETE.

In full view of the fact that the country is now moving along under a system of Democratic measures—the Tariff of 1846, the Sub-Treasury, the acquisition of vast new Territories, the prostration of all schemes of Land Distribution, &c.—the following paragraph, from an editorial in the New York *Commercial Advertiser,* a leading Whig journal, commenting upon some irritable sayings of the New York *Mirror,* bearing strong testimony to the wisdom of these measures, is worthy of remark. It will be read with some surprise by those who expected to see the whole financial policy of the Government changed by the new Administration:

"The 'old issues' are obsolete; and not only so, but the country is in the full tide of prosperity. What wrong, or what grievance, from the source of danger, or loss, or discredit, is there for the Administration to exercise its powers upon for redress, or remedy, or prevention? Business of all kinds is flourishing; industry and enterprise receive their most reward; nobody starves, nobody suffers from any cause which Government or political action can deliver the country from. We are not involved in foreign war, or in danger of being; we have no revolutions to shake our land from one end to the other; in short, as the editors of the Mirror would say, we are favored from any newspaper in the whole Republic, the North American Republic is at this moment, and likely to be, the most prosperous. And fortunate, favored, and altogether admirable and enviable political community on the face of the earth. Why, then, should the Whig party or the Whig Administration not be content? Why should they do anything but just keep quiet and let things go on as excellently as they are going?"

* * * * * * *

"'Masterly inactivity' is just now the true system of the Whig party—for this simple reason, that the party has done all the good it can do at present by Political Action, and the head of affairs in the Administration which does and desires to do no mischief, and is content, as we hope the Mirror will be, 'to let well alone.'"

The reasons from which we make these quotations, is copied approvingly by the *National Intelligencer* and several other Whig papers. It recommends, to "let well enough alone." Under the Tariff of 1846 and the Sub-Treasury, things are "going on excellently." Let old issues be laid on the shelf, they "are obsolete"—let the country have peace—let the Whig Administration simply see to it that the Democratic policy, now established and working so "excellently," be quietly carried on without any change, being content with the glory of having placed a man at the head of Government who "desires to do no mischief." What a strange comment does all this afford on the pother of heated partisans, who were fond of representing that there must be a change of measures, or the country would be ruined!

We agree with this Whig paper: the old issues are obsolete. The Tariff will not be essentially changed, except to liberalize it; nor will the Independent Treasury be abandoned; and, as for the question of Land Distribution, that is in fact substituted by the question of Land Reform.

This, then, is the suspicious time for settling the Territorial Question. The friends of free institutions can unite, concentrate attention upon this, without detriment to "other interests." How unreasonable to allow party names to divide them, when old party questions have been settled!

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The facility of invention or the abundance of folly is contributing occasional facts from the opposition ranks, which tend to establish the sound practical wisdom of the Whig party. It is some time that he is openly and broadly assailed by the same writers. We yesterday met with an anecdote, evidently retailed with the design of disparaging the Whig candidate for the Presidency, but we think it indicates a judicious appreciation of the character of his office and his relative obligations. It is said that "a committee of one of the Methodist Societies of Georgetown waited upon the President to ask a donation towards enabling them to build a church. The President replied that he was not a proper person to be sent. The People did not put me here to build churches! The language may have acquired a twang of oddness in the reference to a *polished race,* but, notwithstanding, it is the language of sound discernment and good common sense.

Now, let us see who was right, and who was wrong, in this matter. The friends of free discourse to us that any religious denomination would better consult the proprieties of our national institutions, and the highest interests of things, by refraining from any act that might expose the prominent officers of Government to misconstruction of motive. The President is *ex-officio* a *civilized* secular, and for his religious sentiments he is responsible to no earthly being. He had, therefore, a perfect right to refuse the donation upon any ground that he deemed proper; and the attempt to make him amenable for it, is an outrage upon his individual rights as a citizen of the United States.—*Baltimore Sun.*

The *Sun* generally contrives to be on the side of the strongest, and therefore, in the last Administration, it upheld Mr. Polk; it is now quite Taylorwise.

We know nothing positive, as to the truth of the incident on which it comments, but we presume that the President did refuse to contribute to the erection of a church. The *Sun,* assuming it to be a fact, justifies him, on the ground that his office was *indivisibly secular.* Bishop Hedding, Do Virtue, Kewdigue, and Religion, cease to have claims upon a man because he happens to hold a civil office? We believe in the separation of Church and State, but not in the divorce of Religion and Rulers. According to the new light of the *Sun,* no officeholder ought to contribute to the building of churches, to the payment of expenses of religious worship, to the support of ministers, to the circulation of the Bible, to the prosecution of Missions, or to any other religious object: his office is "*exclusively secular!*"

We can conceive of but two grounds, either of which would justify General Taylor, or any other person, in refusing such a call—a want of means; or a conviction that religion, as preached in the churches generally, or in the Methodist churches particularly, does more harm than good to the country. Now, the President is too rich to set up the former plea, and not quite simple enough to resort to the latter. The act of refusing to aid in the building of a place of religious worship, where neither want of means nor a disbelief in religion exists, is discreditable to any man, specially to one holding high office from the People. The *Sun* thinks that justifies him there to build churches; neither did they put him there to stifle the generous instincts of his nature, and set an example of penuriousness. The People of the United States are distinguished for their liberal contributions to all good works; and their public servants cannot do better than to rival them in their charities, and gracefully reflect the national spirit.

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THOMAS EARLE.

Many of our readers must have read with pain the announcement in our last number of the death of Thomas Earle, of Philadelphia. The following notice from the *Public Ledger* of that city, does him no more than justice. He was one of the most upright men and independent thinkers of the country.

"The death of Thomas Earle has been announced; and, in the brief notice of his decease, one who was associated with him for years, has scarcely have supposed that it had reference to one of the most sincere, honest, unselfish, and philanthropic men that ever lived. Throughout Mr. Earle's whole life seemed to be spent in objects having for their aim the good of society and of his fellow man. His views, like all such persons, seemed singular to the rest of the world—yet many of them came ultimately to be adopted—proving that the only error of their advocate was in their premature announcement. Even in his last days, he was the friend of every reform, and the unflinching opponent of every selfish and unjust policy. As usual, he died poor, and left his family to forbearance and the friends of the deceased.

"Mr. Earle was a member of the late Convention, in which he was always found supporting the popular cause, and urging the most unrestricted freedom compatible with the public good. As usual, he stood alone, politically, in his opposition against the views of the majority. Yet no man was more leniently treated by his opponents, or more highly respected in the Convention. His sincerity was certainly gained the will even of those who entirely differed with him in opinions. Though decided in his views, and persevering in gaining them, he was violent neither in temper or intolerant. A Democrat, he never agreed with the Democratic party; an Anti-Slavery man, he seldom was found according with the Abolitionists. His views were more those of the Free-Soilers of the present day; and when they went by the name of the Liberty party, he was their candidate for Vice President of the people, under Mr. Birney. In the early part of his manhood, was a merchant. He studied law under John Sergeant, and finally adopted that as his profession. He was a correct and forcible writer, he was a ready and logical speaker, and he contributed frequently to the Democratic press of this city. Society in his death loses a good citizen, and the world an honest man."

THE DEMOCRACY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Mr. Burke's accession to the chair of the Washington Union, and the vehement advocacy by that paper of the policy of *Non-Intervention,* have failed to counteract the anti-slavery tendencies of the New Hampshire Democracy. The report and resolves lately adopted by the Democratic party of the Legislature of that State, in reply to certain resolves of the Legislatures of Virginia and Missouri on the subject of slavery, we commend to the notice of the Charleston Mercury. As originally reported by the Committee, (we learn from the Independent Democrat,) nothing was said about slavery in the District of Columbia. Mr. Cole, a Free Soil member, moved an amendment supplying the omission. The old managers struggled against it, but at last the Young Democracy carried the day, and it was adopted:

Report of the Select Committee on certain resolutions of the States of Virginia and Missouri relating to fugitive slaves.

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LITERARY NOTICES.

DISEASES OF WINTER. By J. R. Culverwell, M. D. New York: Harper & Brothers. J. S. Redfield.

Dr. Culverwell is doing excellent service for the People, by teaching them in familiar style, how to avoid disease, and regulate their diet and regimen. This publication treats of consumption, coughs, colds, asthma, and other diseases of the chest, and, in addition to physiological, pathological, and therapeutical discussions, we find at the close of the work, two hundred formulæ of the latest and most approved remedies, many valuable domestic receipts, and full directions for the practice of inhalation.

TWELVE LECTURES ON COMPARATIVE EMBRYOLOGY. By Lewis Agassiz. Boston: Gould, Kendall & Lincoln.

TWELVE LECTURES ON COMPARATIVE PHYSIOLOGY. By Jeffries Wyman, M. D. Boston: Henry Flanders & Co.

If people starve for lack of knowledge in this country, it is their own fault. Here is an amount of science condensed and "done up" in these two cheaply printed publications, at twenty-five cents a-piece, which a century ago would have been exhausted by the learned, politic, and world-forbidden fruit to the mass of the People.

The Lectures of Professor Agassiz embody, we presume, all of value that is known in a department of science, which has but recently become the subject of learned investigation. They were delivered before the Lowell Institute, in Boston, and are printed from the phonographic report made by Mr. Pitman.

The Lectures of Dr. Wyman, on a subject of profound interest to all who would enlarge their view of the analogies of creation, were delivered before the same Institution, and reported by the same gentleman.

Both publications are illustrated by numerous engravings, greatly contributing to the formation of proper conceptions of the subjects discussed, and communicate a great deal of curious and substantial knowledge in a popular way.

HISTORY OF JULIUS CÆSAR. By Jacob Abbott. Harper & Brothers. New York.

This is about the best of Abbott's series that we have seen. It is handsomely written, the narrative being clear and rapid, and the incidents selected so as to present a fine exhibition of the only usurper, for whom we ever felt the slightest sympathy.

For sale by Frank Taylor, Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.

MANUAL OF ANCIENT GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY. By Wilhelm Putz. Edited by T. K. Arnold, M. A. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

This is a revised publication from the London edition, by Dr. Arnold, of a translation from the German of Wilhelm Putz, Principal Tutor at the Gymnasium of Drueu. It is designed to enable the student to attain a clear and comprehensive view of the outlines of the Ancient world, of the succession and prominent relations of its great nations, and of its principal eras. The method pursued seems well adapted to this design.

For sale by R. Farnham, Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.

A TREATISE ON ALGEBRA, for the Use of Schools and Colleges. By J. S. Chase, Professor of Mathematics in Dartmouth College. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

The publishers deserve great credit for the manner in which they get up these school books—with good paper, clear type, and substantial binding.

This treatise is "intended to exhibit such a view of the principles of Algebra, as shall best prepare the student for the further pursuit of mathematical studies." The author claims that his discussion of the theory of exponents and powers, is original. He uses a method intended to relieve students from most of the difficulty they find in latter parts of the course, owing to "a want of familiarity with the algebraic expressions employed, and with the elementary operations performed upon them. For sale as above.

CHALMERS'S POSTHUMOUS WORKS. Vol. VI. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by F. Taylor, bookseller, Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.

This volume contains thirty-three sermons of Dr. Chalmers, not heretofore published, selected by the editor, Mr. Hanna, with a view of illustrating the changes both in the literary style and manner of preaching of the Doctor, at different stages of his ministry, from 1798 to 1847. Independently, then, of the intrinsic merits of the sermons, they are peculiarly interesting as illustrating the intellectual and spiritual progress of Dr. Chalmers.

In the early part of his career, he was far from being what is called an evangelical preacher. A fast-day discourse, delivered by him in the year 1804, is remarkable for the absence of the slightest recognition of Divine Providence. It would have been as appropriate to the hustings as to the pulpit. Nor were his sermons at that period characterized by that substance of thought, and magnificence of style, for which in later years, he became distinguished. The first sermon, written when he was eighteen years of age, is commonplace in its conceptions; its sentences are short, and almost meager in language. The keenest critic would have detected in it no sign of that genius to which we are indebted for the astronomical discourses whose fame has gone out into all the world.

REVELATIONS ON CHOLERA. By Samuel Dickson, M. D. New York: Harper & Brothers.

A small publication with this title has been issued by H. Long & Brother, New York. We have not had time to read it, but we have no doubt that it deserves to be read. The author is a bold thinker, original and independent, and we presume he only asks the trouble to put pen to paper, unless he had something worthy of communicating.

SUMNER'S ADDRESS BEFORE THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY.

CHARLES SUMNER is no less remarkable for the nobleness of his themes, than the ability with which he treats them. His many public addresses are marked by a thorough appreciation of the highest interests of Man, by an expansive Christian philanthropy, by clearness of method, purity of diction, and great wealth of illustration. The address before us, after having stripped the War system of the glories with which extravagance has invested it, proceeds, first, to unfold the true character of war, and the war system involving the preparations for war, and the question of a militia; secondly, the means by which the system can be overthrown, passing in review the tendencies and examples of nations, and the efforts of individuals constituting the Peace Movement, indicating sources of true triumph, and dwelling at the close on some practical suggestions.

We should like to quote liberally from this eloquent production, but

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

From the Alexandria Gazette.

MR. CALHOUN'S ADDRESS.

NEW YORK, *July* 23, 1849.

Since my last letter, we have been called to lament the loss of several eminent citizens, whose departure from different spheres of honorable activity has awakened the sympathy of our whole community.

David B. Ogden bore a name of the highest distinction in the annals of the Empire State. He was universally honored and beloved for the possession of those qualities, whose genuine exhibition always commands esteem. He was a man without affectation and without pretence. Of singular simplicity in his manners, his dress, his prevailing tastes, he might often pass for less than his real worth. But no one could know him intimately without being impressed by the soundness of his intellect, the sobriety of his judgment, the extent of his attainments, and the kindliness of his disposition. His legal knowledge, the fruit of the assiduous study of a long life, no less than his venerable age and experience, gave him a most distinguished position at the New York bar; and his sudden, though not premature, decease has called forth a deep and universal expression of admiration, from his professional brethren.

He was among the few surviving members of the old Federal party — a school of politicians, which, to whatever criticism it may be exposed for its want of sympathy with the progressive mission of this country, its lack of faith in the safety and power of its liberal principles, and its timidity and its temporising attachment to the decrepid institutions of past ages, with no perception of the grand, humanitary development of history, it must be acknowledged, numbered in its ranks an uncommon proportion of men whose rare private worth, whose spotless patriotism, and whose unimpeachable public integrity, would have made them the pride and ornament of any party or any country.

In another walk of society, the death of James Reyburn has left a chasm which will not easily be filled. He was a frank, generous, cordial Irishman, of great public spirit, and with a heart overflowing with genuine benevolence. He was the active friend of the helpless emigrant, who always found in him a judicious counsellor, a faithful patron, and a liberal benefactor. His services in relations and in manners made him a universal favorite; and never were shed sincerer tears than those which moisten his grave.

We have also just received intelligence of the death of Harmanus Bleecker, of Albany, another distinguished citizen of the old school, whose career in legal, political, and diplomatic functions has been one of the most honorable character. He belonged to the pure Knickerbocker race, of which he was in all respects a favorable specimen. He was no less beloved for the modesty and amenity of his manners, the cheerfulness of his temper, and the strength of his friendship, than he was honored for the vigor and acuteness of his intellect, and the variety of his erudition.

You are acquainted with Thomas Earle, of Philadelphia, whose death has also been announced to us the past week, and of course knew the sterling independence and unworldly devotedness of his character. I never met with him but on one occasion. At that time, I had frequent interviews with him, and, though he was then in feeble health, I was struck with his evident originality of thought, the zeal and logical shrewdness with which he maintained his opinions, and the manly candor with which he listened to the expression of new ideas.

He possessed an open, inquiring spirit; it must have been a strong chain which could bind the freedom of his mind; and the liberty which he loved himself he wished to guaranty to all. His efforts in behalf of the slave are well known to the advocates of emancipation; nor did he withhold his sympathy from any movement in the interests of humanity. One of his great objects was given much attention to the question of the celebrated "ruffled-shirt and broadcloth" mob, which convened to "put down" Garrison and Boston from Abolition meeting. Mr. Lyman at that time exposed himself in the midst of the mob, took Mr. Garrison, who was greatly in danger, under his special protection, and, by his decision and firmness, was probably the means of saving him from severe injury, if not from destruction. Mr. Lyman was a gentleman of superior education, the inheritor of a large fortune from his father, an eminent Boston merchant, who arose from a condition of obscure poverty in the State of Maine, to the rank of a millionaire. He spent several years of his early life in European travel, and soon after his return published a work on "Italy," and another on "Foreign Diplomacy," which met with a favorable reception at first, but have since been lost sight of in the throng and pressure of more exciting literature. He, too, was a Massachusetts Federalist of the old school, and brought up with up at the feet of Christopher Gore, George Cabot, Harrison Gray Otis, Thomas H. Perkins, and other tall pillars of that school in the old Bay State, but broke their political ties on the question between John Quincy Adams and Gen. Jackson, however, his bitter aversion to the dereliction of principle, as he regarded it, displayed by Mr. Adams in the desertion of his party, led him to give a vigorous support to the Hero of New Orleans. He edited a newspaper for a short time, in the interests of Jackson's first election, but in this capacity, his quotation of Mr. Adams's charge of treason against the Federalists of Masenchsetts, with the expression of surprise that the subjects of this accusation should not call him out and shoot him on the spot, and allow him to "eit at their tables, to break their bread, to eat their salt, and to drink their wine," brought down upon his head condign fire libel by Daniel Webster, whose name had been taken in vain, in connection with this controversy. From the eminence of the parties, and the legal bearings, this suit excited, for a small sensation for a while, but it was permitted to subside by the disagreement of the jury, on coming to trial, and is now generally forgotten. Like so many great men in Massachusetts, Mr. Lyman had been a militia General in his day, and well remember his elegant and commanding appearance at the head of his troops on Boston Common. He was one of the most truly gentlemanly men in this country, with remarkable grace in every movement. I never saw a man on a horse who looked more easy, and his unicorn plume rivalled the beauty and splendor of Murat's. He was not a man of parade, however, though he was a General, and as fine a horseman and fine remarks of him, "he was an honest man, though he was a lawyer." His residence was a beautiful villa in the vicinity of Boston, and one of the finest specimens of domestic architecture in the United States. His character is summed up by saying, that he was a man of exquisite taste, of consummate propriety in all the relations of delicate associations, and of more than ordinary goodness of heart. His wife was from a distinguished family in the city, of remarkable personal beauty, and varied accomplishments. He survived her many years.

I listened yesterday afternoon to an interesting discourse by the Rev. John Leavitt before a small society of colored people, called the Bethesda Church. It was not one of the rousing Boanerges efforts, with which Mr. Leavitt is so well able to start men from their seats at a crowded anniversary meeting; nor did it present the appalling array of facts and statistics with which he is wont to force conviction even from the most reluctant hearer, but it was a discourse of much just a calm, earnest, affectionate, pastoral appeal to the hearts of the audience, showing the injury of sin to the soul, and exhorting them to the diligent discharge of duty. It was listened to with fixed attention by the little band of worshippers, who are a good specimen of the best portion of the colored population of the city. I do not wish to make one of an audience with more decent and orderly behaviour, or more apparent interest in the services. Whatever sneers may be expressed at the character of a colored congregation, I am sure that this displayed the cardinal virtues both of cleanliness and godliness, which, according to John Wesley, are the two conditions of salvation.

Among the new works announced in preparation, I perceive a volume of Essays on Representative Men, by Ralph Waldo Emerson, which is probably a collection of his lectures on Shakspeare, Napoleon, Swedenborg, and others, which were delivered with great success in Boston, New York, London, and elsewhere. He is both will be a decided acquisition to the admirers of this American Montaigne. I see announced, also, a "Discourse of Christianity," by Theodore Parker, which will, I have no doubt, have the merit of setting people a thinking, if nothing more. Parker is a sincere, earnest, whole-souled man, in spite of his audacious heresies. Hildreth's second volume will be forthcoming soon. So, too, I hope, will be Bancroft's fourth.

C. N. E.

We have received Mr. Calhoun's "Address to the People of the *Southern States*." In reply to Mr. Benton's recent attack upon him. It is exceedingly able, and I recommend you to peruse it for yourselves, without filling our columns with the whole of it, with giving our readers a general idea of its contents. The opening paragraph is this:

Several reasons would have prevented me from taking any notice of Colonel Benton, if his attack in his late speech delivered in the Capitol of Missouri had been directed exclusively against me. The line of conduct I have prescribed to myself, in reference to him, is to have as little to do with him as possible, and I accordingly never notice what comes from him, even in his character as Senator, unless I should also consistently with truth say nothing. But while I feel myself in a light very different from what he seems to regard me, if we may judge from the frequency and violence of his attacks on me. He seems to think I stand in his way, and that he would be benefited by some scheme to put him down. I, on the contrary, have never for a moment thought of raising him to the level of a competitor or rival, nor considered it of any importance to me whether he should be put down or not. He must think he has something to gain by assailing me; I, on the contrary, feel that I have nothing to gain by defending myself, when compelled to do so, an satisfied if I escape without some loss of self-respect. I have another reason for not desiring to notice him on the present occasion. He has attacked me, in all the few and trifling exceptions, are but the reiterations of those often made heretofore by himself and others, and which have been repeatedly refuted and repelled in my place in the Senate. That they made no impression against me at the time, either in the Senate or community, there can be no better proof than is furnished by the fact that no allusion some effort be made in his present speech to revive and give them circulation.

Under all these circumstances, I would have remained silent had I alone been concerned. But such is not the case. His blow is aimed much more at you than me. He strikes at me for the double purpose of weakening the confidence, and of striking at you and your cause through me, which he thinks can be done more effectually than directly. Under this view regarding his attack, I feel it to be a duty I owe you and your cause to repel it.

The effort of Colonel Benton, from the beginning to the end of his speech, is to show that I had I have ever been unfaithful to your cause, and true to that of the Free-Sellers and Abolitionists; while, on the contrary, you had him an unknown but faithful friend in all occasions. He assumes that you and they have been both mistaken in reference to my course; you in regarding me as a friend, and they as one who could, and they in regarding me as hostile to theire. Judged by appearances, his object would seem to be to dispel His delusion, while in truth it is, to give you and your cause a deeper and more treacherous blow. This the Abolitionists and Free-Sollers well understand. The disguise was not assumed to deceive them. They know me well. They understand him, and have balled with acclamation his speech, and glorified it and its author to the skies. They, too, have no wish that the blow should be unperceived by you, on learning that he has accomplished me, and this, too, while it holds me up as the truest and best friend of their cause. It remains to be seen whether you will be deceived by him as perfectly as they do, and will meet the speech so lauded by them with the reprobation due to effrontery and desertion. It's not the first time that a desire to injure me has induced to address those he deserted, and, while professing regard for their cause, denounced those who remained faithful to it. The history of our Revolution furnishes a notorious instance of the kind. The deserter in that instance failed to deceive those whom he addressed, or to shake their confidence in those who remained faithful. He has been unable, in return for his effrontery and desertion, have sent his name down to posterity with reprobation. It remains to be seen whether such will be the fate of the deserter of the South.

Mr. Calhoun then proceeds to take up and reply at length to Mr. Benton's charges against him: That he introduced his "resolutions" into the Senate for "disunion purpose"—that he had changed his opinions since he was member of Mr. Monroe's Cabinet on the power of Congress over the Territories—that he "gave away Texas" originally, &c. With regard to the second charge, he says:

To substantiate the charge of a change of opinion, he introduces a copy of what purports to be a draft of a letter found among the papers of Mr. Monroe, after his death, and addressed to any person by name, but contained expressions which leave no doubt that it was intended for General Jackson. The draft was found filed away with another endorsed "Interrogatories—Missouri—March 31, 1820." "To the Heads of Department" is written at the head of the first of the two questions, of which the one pertinent to the present subject is in the following words: "Has Congress a right, under the power vested in the Constitution, to make Regulations and Restraints slavery in a Territory?" The only material sentence in the draft of the letter in reference to the point under consideration is the following: "I took part in the opinion, in writing, of the Administration, as to the constitutionality of restraining Territories, which was explicit in favor of it." These are the exact words of the sentence so finally expressed by its author. It is explicit as to the statement that the administration, as a body, was in favor of the constitutionality, but furnishes no proof whatever of its opinion being unanimous, and of course no evidence that I, or any other particular member of the Cabinet, was in its favor.

This effort to make the opinion

THE NATIONAL ERA.

☞ We know not how the following poem slipped away out of sight, but the author will pardon us. He speaks freely to Virginia, and says some pungent things, though it is easy to see that he admires her, and would rejoice in her redemption from slavery.—*Ed. Era.*

TO VIRGINIA.

The following lines were suggested by reading Governor Smith's proposal to deport fifty thousand free colored Virginians from that State, and the reasons he assigns for the measure.

O, what derision pity, and disdain,
Thrill through the soul, to hear thee thus complain!
Was baptism's cross a redeemer?
To plant her hapless sons and daughters here!
What though the fetters, in like manner for gold,
First stole their persons, then their freedom sold;
Say, who that freedom purchased? was it they
And grasp it from the love of power and gain!
Down, proud, down, that yields me wealth nor power,
But hither flies each early decrepid hour.
Who that perceive, but pity, while they see
Such spirits in such servitude be held!
Such folly on that soil thy Hero tread,
Who won our freedom, while he bled on God!
O, shut thy voice men in that hour has seen,
How far that language has fled from thee!
Flung to bright boon of freedom to the slave;
And lo it then be intelligent and brave.

No more distinct thy stream and mountains trace
The outlines of thy geographic space,
Than plain to human sight truth puts out the way
To escape thy darkness to a glorious day.
Hwas not thy "institution," whose true name
Took a new birthright to enslave and shame,
Sufficient unto sin driven from thy soil,
That pallid thing in time invented like hell!
Do not the forest, on deserted fields,
Tell to each comer, what like trees they yields?

An incubus is on thee, and thy blood
Curdling around thy heart a stagnant flood,
Whose dark breath taints the air it feeds upon,
If some redeemer do not rise to save.
And levels the commander from lord and slave.
On virtue's pillar a republic stands,
Or in its ruins are sea-shells and sands;
And vassalage and virtue ne'er can dwell
In the same region, more than heaven and hell.
Like pestilential vapor, to a dungeon,
Will veil how virtue and religion die,
When sons and daughters are exchanged for gold,
And their own offspring are by monsters sold.
Wail it all ye lights of heaven and earth, for shame,
A night whose darkness may be felt in time;
In that dark hell, in the deep midst of sin,
Thy lie does would perpetuate and extend!
O, let the blood of white and black that flows
Alike the Patriot's and the Christian's dread:
Confess, believe, and starve it, till it die,
And upon it spell a brighter day.

One way alone, and that one way so plain,
A child might all its mystery explain,
Can aid thee write the history of thy ills it waits,
And bring redemption to thy mourning gates.
Remonstrance, petition, fail, ineredibly,
Would dart sublime'st glorious dawn on thee;
And education by *reciprocal skill,*
Severs from thy wonders since the deepening sha'le.
Ah, then shall truths the long pent bondsmen wrong,
And yield their birthright to the noble race;
Degrad'd am not from thy deserted land—
They will revisit them more than ever hands;
Improved aright, they are thy *attach'm trade,*
That shall from thee with prosperity abide.
Go tales them from the dust, confess thy sin:
His *Father* is the work, when this end begin.
Give them God's word, the pastor, and the school;
Give them in fraudulent, and the cheer of rule;
Go, make them men—aye, more, thy *brethren,* too—
And yield God's image there to perfect view.
More than thy youthful animation burn;
Be up to thyself and ne'er pit human scorn;
Would burst with angel strength thy prison door,
Send through the South as energizing fire,
Her pales vexall, with shouts, "*she treeth still!*"
Which shall be Sisters." Virginia shall again,
Without a blush, as her supposition name—
"*Mother of Liberty!*" emerged and *made free.*
Graved on the marble of eternity.

E. S. F.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE PASSAGE OF THE ORDINANCE OF 1787.

CLEVELAND, *July* 10, 1849.

DR. BAILEY: In journeying from Washington to this city, I met with no incidents worthy of note, save what is generally experienced in crossing the mountains by the *stage* route. To the lovers of the grand and beautiful in nature, this would be a delightful and pleasant route, were it not for the wear and tear of body and mind which travellers generally experience in being packed into a stage coach. In this good, old, slow, lumbering and hurried off with Jehu speed over hill and dale, and compelled to starve or take a "hasty plate of soup," or a more hasty cup of coffee at the stage landlords may throw before you for fifty cents. I would advise all who desire comfort in travelling over this section of country to take the packet and railroad line, via Columbia, Gallidayburg, and Johnstown. It is cheaper and pleasanter, and in the end full as speedy. I was informed by gentlemen in Pittsburg that the new evolution this route is picturesque and grand, and the accommodations are far superior to either of the stage routes. This is quite an item in travelling, especially at this season of the year.

The farmers of Pennsylvania and Ohio were just commencing the work of gathering in their wheat crop. I think crops were never better than now in this State.

I tarried a few days at Warren, and had an opportunity to learn from Free-Soilers what were the real sentiments and feelings of Gen. Taylor's toward the Free Soil movement; and permit me to say that I have the utmost confidence in his integrity. If any one supposes that he will forget will take any other course, in or out of Congress, than that which the purest philanthropy dictates, and which is recognised as the highest standard of anti-slavery action, he is mistaken. I believe no one finds aught against his past Congressional course; and, my word for it, his future course in the House of Representatives will fully accord with the past.

JULY 13, 1849.

This has been an auspicious day for the *Free* Democracy. The great Mass Convention held yesterday in one of the parks near the central part of the city, and people from the prairie counties of the West and the mountains and valleys of the East began to throng the streets early. An apprehension of the cholera kept thousands away, but still there were hearers enough. At ten o'clock the firing of cannon announced the commencement of the exercises. Ex-Senator Tappan of this State was chosen President of the Convention, and Vice Presidents were also selected from each of the five North western States.

Hon. Henry L. Ellsworth, former Commissioner of Patents, first addressed the assembled thousands on the subject. He spoke of the wonderful change that had taken place in Indiana in one short year on the subject of Free Soil, and alluded to slavery in the District of Columbia, and the many thrilling incidents of the separation of families by the inhuman slave trader, which came under his own observation while a resident there. His speech was well received by the people.

Messrs. Giddings, Willey of Maine, Taylor of the *Cincinnati Globe*, Judge Spaulding, and others, addressed the meeting in the afternoon and evening. But *the* speech of the occasion was made by John Van Buren in the afternoon, who spoke near three hour in his most effective and happy style. I have heard Hale, but never heard him equal the orator. In the evening, the crowd again assembled, and were highly entertained by Mr. Bibb, the fugitive slave. The day has been a glorious one for the cause of Liberty, and it will long be remembered by those present as an epoch in the great movement now going forward to effect the happiness and highest well-being of our race.

A sketch of the speeches, the resolutions, and the letters which were read from many of the influential men in Ohio, will be given in the form you may make your own selection. The letter of Cassius M. Clay was greeted with three deafening cheers; and, after saluting each of the speakers with three cheers, and each letter with three old fashioned ones for Liberty, the Convention adjourned. Yours, CATO.

THE PROCEEDINGS.

We learn from the *Cleveland Plaindealer*, that, at the time appointed, some three thousand people assembled under a big tent on the Public Square. The Convention was organized by the appointment of the Hon. Ben. Tappan, President, Joel Tiffany and George Hoadley, Secretaries. It was then addressed for a few minutes by the Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, former Commissioner of Patents, who was followed by James W. Taylor, editor of the *Southerly Mirror*.

In the afternoon, Mr. Austin Willey, of Maine, made a speech. He "looked beyond the attainment of the immediate objects in view, and contemplated remoter and ultimate ones. How little did the framers of Magna Charta know that they were erecting lighthouses for ages that were to come! How little did they who decided the Somersett case in England know what a lighthouse they were building for the world! How little did Jefferson know, when he penned the Declaration of Independence, what a mighty power the Public Square. The Convention was organized by the appointment of the Hon. Ben. Tappan, President, Joel Tiffany and George Hoadley, Secretaries. It was then addressed for a few minutes by the Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, former Commissioner of Patents, who was followed by James W. Taylor, editor of the *Southerly Mirror*.

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Such folly on that soil thy Hero tread,
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O, shut thy voice men in that hour has seen,
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A sketch of the speeches, the resolutions, and the letters which were read from many of the influential men in Ohio, will be given in the form you may make your own selection. The letter of Cassius M. Clay was greeted with three deafening cheers; and, after saluting each of the speakers with three cheers, and each letter with three old fashioned ones for Liberty, the Convention adjourned. Yours, CATO.

THE PROCEEDINGS.

We learn from the *Cleveland Plaindealer*, that, at the time appointed, some three thousand people assembled under a big tent on the Public Square. The Convention was organized by the appointment of the Hon. Ben. Tappan, President, Joel Tiffany and George Hoadley, Secretaries. It was then addressed for a few minutes by the Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, former Commissioner of Patents, who was followed by James W. Taylor, editor of the *Southerly Mirror*.

In the afternoon, Mr. Austin Willey, of Maine, made a speech. He "looked beyond the attainment of the immediate objects in view, and contemplated remoter and ultimate ones. How little did the framers of Magna Charta know that they were erecting lighthouses for ages that were to come! How little did they who decided the Somersett case in England know what a lighthouse they were building for the world! How little did Jefferson know, when he penned the Declaration of Independence, what a mighty power the Public

FROM MARTIN VAN BUREN.

LINDENWALD, *July* 7, 1849.

GENTLEMEN: I have received the invitation with which you have honored me to unite with the Freemen of the Reserve, in celebrating, on the 13th inst., the anniversary of the passage of the Ordinance of 1787, and return you my best thanks for this proof of your respect and confidence.

It will not be in my power to comply with your request, and it can scarcely be necessary to any to you how cordially and earnestly I concur in the policy of the great measure you desire to sustain.

That the Ordinance of 1787 was the work of the patriots who framed the Constitution of the United States, and of the Congress which preceded it, is a matter of history. The principles which it established were the result of the spirit and views which prevailed in the Revolution, and which had been developed in the discussions which preceded the formation of the Federal Constitution. The exclusion of slavery from that territory, (all then belonging to the United States, to celebrate the Anniversary of the Ordinance of 1787, held in pursuance of a resolution of the Congress of the Confederation, and which framed the Constitution adopted as organic law, has undoubtedly arrested the progress of the slave traffic, and with other acts and evidences developed a design by the men of the Revolution to limit, localize, and discourage slavery: and

Whereas the citizens who now enjoy the fruits of the Ordinance of 1787 are summoned by every consideration of duty and interest to maintain and perpetuate the Proviso of Freedom over Western Territories, the District of Columbia, and all other portions of the Union within the exclusive jurisdiction of the General Government:

Resolved, That we, the citizens of the States formed from the Northwest Territory, having met in Convention for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the Ordinance of 1787, hold in grateful remembrance the services of that illustrious, and patriotic statesman, Thomas Jefferson, who first drafted the clause to forever prohibit the introduction of slavery into the Territory.

Resolved, That we believe, with the fathers of the Republic, that human slavery is a moral, social, and political evil; that the General Government should refuse to sanction, from its responsible power, any further increase of it; and that the full constitutional power of the Government to prevent the spread of this evil should be exerted now, as it should have been from the first, to the extent required by right.

Resolved, That we abhor the policy of partisan politicians, who, for political availability, have so long sacrificed, in National Conventions, the best interests of Freedom and humanity.

Resolved, That President Taylor, by allowing his name and influence to be used for the benefit of the Slave Power, in violation of the pledges made to the people of Congress, has not only violated the spirit of his pledge not to interfere with the action of Congress, but, in the judgment of this Convention, has failed to visit the Free Soil party with "his indignant frown," in case they should do what Southern members of Congress have done without incurring any such displeasure, has abandoned and left the cause of freedom in the new free Territories of New Mexico and California has nothing to hope, and much to fear, from the present National Administration.

Resolved, That to protect this great interest, and to insure, in other respects, a sound administration of the Government, the most favorable issue there should be a union of all those who love their country more than mere party upon the great principles of the Declaration of Independence, and the Declaration of Independence, and set forth in the Declaration of Independence, and set forth in the unanimous address of its author.

Resolved, That, in the spirit of the compact solemnly recorded in the Ordinance of 1787, between the original States and the people of the Northwestern Territory, we recognize the duty of the States to admit new States, and the duty of Territories and the admission of slave States, and to suffer no change in the complexion of the United States Senate except in favor of Freedom, and no change in the House of Representatives, except in proportion to the increase of free States, whatever may be the pretext of Congressional compromise, stipulation, or precedent.

Resolved, That the existence of human slavery at the seat of Government is a foul stain upon the escutcheon of our Republic, and no efforts should be spared to effect its removal from the States, and to Congress, who will vote unhesitatingly for the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and for the removal of the seat of Government to a place consecrated to Free Soil.

Resolved, That this Convention approve the platform of the Free Democracy, which was promulgated at Buffalo, in August, 1848, and which has since been sanctioned by every State, slave or free, where the Free Democracy have been organized.

Resolved, That the Free Democracy, in its efforts to restore the original policy of the Government on the subject of slavery, are but simply carrying out true Democratic principles to their legitimate application; and we therefore hail with the greatest satisfaction the accession of numbers, and we rejoice to add, successfully made in Vermont, and some other States, to bring up the old Democracy to the platform of Freedom, and dissolve the bonds of its unnatural alliance with the Slave Power.

Resolved, That we witness with great satisfaction the triumphant appeal which Thomas H. Benton is making to the people of his State, by appealing fully one of the great principles of the Democracy, to wit: the constitutional power of Congress to legislate for Freedom, even to the exclusion of slavery.

LETTERS.

Letters were read from Martin Van Buren, Henry Clay, John A. Dix, John G. Palfrey, Horace Mann, C. F. Adams, Charles Sumner, Lewis Tappan, Dr. Snodgrass, Cassius M Clay, C. D. Sedgwick, Edward Bascom, &c. We can make room but for two.

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